

# HELLENISTIC WORLD

(History 510:303)/INTERIM SYLLABUS  
Spring 2016

Dr. Thomas J. Figueira  
Dept. of History, Van Dyck Hall, CAC  
Meetings: MTh 12:35-1:55, Loree 115, DC  
Hist. Office Hours: Mon. 2:15-3:15  
Van Dyck 202, CAC  
E-mail: [figueira@rci.rutgers.edu](mailto:figueira@rci.rutgers.edu)

Phone: 732-445-4037  
Dept. of Classics, Ruth Adams Bldg. DC  
932-9797 (messages/general information)  
Class. Off. Hrs: W4:00-4:45: RAB 003, DC  
or LSH A-312, LC (732-445-4037), by  
appointment

## I. Texts

### Required Texts

- M.M. Austin, *The Hellenistic World from Alexander to the Roman Conquest* (Cambridge: 1981 = 1<sup>st</sup> ed.; 2006 = 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.: 0-521-289666-8) = Austin  
P. Green, *Alexander to Actium* (Berkeley & Los Angeles 1990: 0-520-08349-0) = Green  
F.W. Walbank, *The Hellenistic World* (Cambridge, Mass. 1981: 0-674-38725-2) = Walbank

## II. Grading and Requirement

- A. 30% Mid-term (**March 10**)  
35% Research Paper (due **April 21**)  
35% Final: **Thursday, May 5, 8:00-11:00**
- B. The mid-term (**March 10**) is an in-class exam (during the normal scheduled period and in our usual classroom), testing material from lectures 1-12; the format of the test, which will include short answers and essay-style questions, will be announced.
- C. The final will be held at its regularly scheduled time (as noted above) in the usual classroom unless there is other notification. It will be comprehensive and cumulative, with significant emphasis on the second half of the course. Absence from the final examination will not be permitted except in cases of medical and family emergency or examination overload (as defined by the relevant collegiate regulations).
- D. The research paper is an analysis of the interpretation of a specific facet of Hellenistic history and civilization. A list of permitted topics can be found on the course SAKAI site. A topic must be chosen by **March 10** and may be discussed in an individual meeting with the instructor. The paper is due by electronic submission to the course dropbox of the SAKAI site on **April 21**, and should be no less than 9 and no more than 12 double-spaced typed pages. The *Paperaid* on SAKAI offers instructions and suggestions on the format of the paper, and how it should be researched. Late papers (without valid excuse or prior permission of the instructor) are penalized in proportion to their tardiness with mitigation for the quality of the paper.

### III. Synopsis

This course will deal with the history of the Greek and non-Greek peoples in Mediterranean Europe, the Near East, and North Africa after the death of Alexander the Great during what is called the Hellenistic Period, although it will be necessary to do some preliminary work on fourth-century Greek history and on Alexander himself. We shall continue down to the period of the Roman conquest and domination of much of the Greek and non-Greek-speaking eastern Mediterranean and Near East. The content of the classes will include lecture, discussion of assigned readings, and opportunities for questions. Students will be expected to participate in classroom discussion (to the degree that is appropriate for a lecture course of moderate size). The readings will include two general books on the Hellenistic Period (Green and Walbank) and a collection of ancient sources (Austin). These are supplemented with lecture notes, review sheets, and other study aids from the *Hellenistic World Reader* (now available electronically on SAKAI). The students are not only responsible for the readings, but also for the material presented in the lectures.

### IV. Outline of Lectures and Assignments

#### Introduction

Jan. 21: Some preliminaries; discussion of syllabus

Jan. 25 (1): The sources for the Hellenistic Period; Greek Background:  
Walbank 13-28; Austin pp. 1-7

Jan. 28 (2): The Macedonian background: Walbank 60-78

Feb. 1 (3): Macedonia and Greece under Philip II: Austin #1-#2<sup>2</sup> (pp. 18-24)

#### Alexander and his Empire

Feb. 4 (4): Alexander's conquest of Persia: Walbank 29-37; Austin #1-#10<sup>1</sup> (pp. 8-22) =  
#3-#11<sup>2</sup> (pp. 24-39)<sub>1</sub>

Feb. 8 (5): Alexander's later career and his Graeco-Oriental empire: Walbank 37-45;  
Austin #11-#20<sup>1</sup> (pp. 22-39) = #12-#25<sup>2</sup> (pp. 40-61)

#### The Struggle for Succession to the Empire

Feb. 11 (6): The settlement after Alexander's death and the regencies of Perdiccas and  
Antipater: Walbank 46-49; Green 1-20; Austin #21-#27<sup>1</sup> (pp. 39-52) =  
#26-#33<sup>2</sup> (pp. 62-78)

Feb. 15 (7): The ambitions of Antigonos and the initial emergence of the kingdoms:  
Walbank 50-58; Green 21-35; Austin #28-#42<sup>1</sup> (pp. 52-78) = #34-#50<sup>2</sup>  
(pp. 78-107)

---

<sup>1</sup> Although Austin 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. is preferred, I supply references for both editions.

*Hellenistic World* Spring 2016

Feb. 18 (8): The consolidation of the kingdoms/Fall of Lysimachus: Walbank 58-59; Green 36-51, 117-34; Austin #43-#48<sup>1</sup> (pp. 78-94) = #51-#59<sup>2</sup> (pp. 108-127)

The Hellenistic Kingdoms in the Third Century

Feb. 22 (9): Ptolemaic Egypt I: Introduction and political history through Ptolemy IV: Walbank 100-14; Green 137-47; Austin #217-#225<sup>1</sup> (pp. 357-72) = #254-#277<sup>2</sup> (pp. 448-86)

Feb. 25 (10): Ptolemaic Egypt II: Ptolemy V-VIII; Ptolemaic administration of Egypt: Green 187-94, 396-413 Austin #226-#236<sup>1</sup> (pp. 372-407) = #278-#97<sup>2</sup> (pp. 486-531)

Feb. 29 (11): Ptolemaic Egypt III: Ptolemaic administration (cont.): Green 80-91; Austin #237-#261 (pp. 407-40) = #298-#326 (pp. 531-71); The Ptolemies' overseas empire: Austin #262-#279<sup>1</sup> (pp. 440-59) ~ #257<sup>2</sup>, #259-#265<sup>2</sup>, #269-70<sup>2</sup>, #273<sup>2</sup>, #278-#281<sup>2</sup>, #285<sup>2</sup>, #287<sup>2</sup>

Mar. 3 (12): Seleucid Asia I: Survey of Seleucid history/political history to Antiochus III: Walbank 123-40; Green 147-54; Austin #138-#151<sup>1</sup> (pp. 236-54) = #158-#191 (pp. 286-346)

Mar. 7 (13): Seleucid Asia II: The political life of the Seleucid empire: Green 155-64, 194-98; Austin #174-#192<sup>1</sup> (pp. 295-315), #201<sup>2</sup> (pp. 361-62), #206-207<sup>2</sup> (pp. 368-69)

Mar. 10: **Mid-term**

Mar. 21 (14): The Attalid kingdom of Pergamum: Green 164-70; Austin #193-#211<sup>1</sup> (pp. 316-45) = #224-#248<sup>2</sup> (pp. 395-431)

Mar. 24 (15): The Antigonid kingdom of Macedonia/The Greek Leagues: Walbank 79-99, 141-52; Green 198-200, 248-65; Austin #49-57<sup>1</sup> (pp. 94-113) = #61-#71<sup>2</sup> (pp. 130-52)

The Roman Conquest

Mar. 28 (16): Philip V and Rome: Walbank 238-51; Green 269-311; Austin #58-#68; #74<sup>1</sup> (pp. 113-30; 136-38) = #72-#84<sup>2</sup> (pp. 152-74), #90<sup>2</sup> (pp. 180-82)

Mar. 31 (17): Rome and Antiochus III/Later relations with Macedonia: Green 414-32; Austin #69-#73<sup>1</sup>, #75-#80<sup>1</sup> (pp. 130-48) = #85-#89<sup>2</sup>, #91-#97<sup>2</sup> (pp. 174-80, 182-94); #152-#161<sup>1</sup> (pp. 254-68) = #192-205<sup>2</sup> (pp. 346-367)

Apr. 4 (18): Later Seleucids: Green 497-544; Austin #162-#173<sup>1</sup> (pp. 268-85) = #208-#222<sup>2</sup> (pp. 370-92)

*Hellenistic World* Spring 2016

Apr. 7 (19): Roman domination of the Hellenistic East: Walbank 152-58; Green 435-52, 547-65, 647-82; Austin #81-#82<sup>1</sup> (pp. 148-50) = #99-#100<sup>2</sup> (pp. 194-96); #212-#215<sup>1</sup> (pp. 345-52) = #249-#253<sup>2</sup> (pp. 432-39)

Hellenistic Civilization

Apr. 11 (20): Society and Economy I: Walbank 159-75; Green 362-95; Austin #83-#99<sup>1</sup> (pp. 151-77) = #101-#117<sup>2</sup> (pp. 197-224)

Apr. 14 (21): Society and Economy II: Green 312-35; Austin #100-#116<sup>1</sup> (pp. 177-201) = #118-#135<sup>2</sup> (pp. 224-50); #132-#137<sup>1</sup> (pp. 227-235) = #152-#157<sup>2</sup> (pp. 278-85)

Apr. 18 (22): Hellenistic Culture I (Education, religion, and medicine): Walbank 176-84, 209-226; Green 52-64, 480-96, 586-646; Austin #117-#131<sup>1</sup> (pp. 201-27) = #136-#151<sup>2</sup> (pp. 251-78)

Apr. 21 (23): Hellenistic Culture II (Mathematics, science, technology, exploration): Walbank 184-208; Green 453-79

Apr. 25 (24): Hellenistic Literature I: Green 65-79, 171-80, 201-15, 233-47

Apr. 28: Hellenistic Literature II

May 2: Catch-up, summation, and retrospection

FINAL EXAM: Thursday, May 5, 8:00-11:00 PM

Please note the statement on plagiarism of the Department of History:

<http://history.rutgers.edu/undergrad/plagiarism.htm>

Papers CAN be monitored through turnitin.com.

This class is conducted under the rules established in the Department of History, Policy on Mutual Responsibilities and Classroom Etiquette, which may be found at:

<http://history.rutgers.edu.undergrad/policy.htm>

Students are not allowed to record the lectures without written permission from T. Figueira.

Students are expected to maintain good standing through regular attendance. Without good standing, students may receive failing (or lowered) grades at the instructor's discretion. If you expect to miss one or two classes, however, please use the University absence reporting website

<https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> <<https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/>> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me. More serious problems should be brought to my attention face-to-face or through an email.

Students are expected to maintain good standing through ensuring that they possess working RU email accounts and are able to maintain access to the course SAKAI site; otherwise they will not be considered in good standing. Emails to me should be sent from RU email accounts. I cannot guarantee timely responses otherwise.